

NEW-YORK TRIBUNE.

CITY ITEMS.

SATURDAY, Dec. 11.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY.—At the meeting on Tuesday evening last, Hon. Albert Gallatin read a paper on California and New Mexico—in which a variety of information furnished in relation to those regions by Col. Fremont and other Army officers was brought together and arranged in a very clear and interesting manner. The strip of land lying East of the range of the Sierras Nevada in California, and 20 to 300 miles wide, was described as the most fertile land in the world, while that lying West of it as far as the basin of the Rio Colorado, is bare and worthless; in fact, only a sandy waste.

Speaking of the substance of Indiana, Mr. Gallatin stated that a large tribe in New Mexico live on a sort of large grasshopper or wingless locust, which they dry, pulverize, and knead into a kind of cake which they bake, and which is not bad eating. He also stated that the wild horses, which traverse the plains of California and New Mexico in vast troops, the descendants of the wild horses introduced by the Spanish discoverers and conquerors, are becoming more highly prized and sought after. By some they are used as food. The early settlers in Oregon fed on their flesh, and found it quite palatable and nourishing; they called it "Columbia beef."

Mr. Gallatin also spoke of the cultivation of Cotton, and Eli Whitney's invention of the Cotton-Gin, which he said had greatly prolonged the curse of Slavery.

RETURN OF CO. BURNETT.—Col. Burnett, Maj. Dyckman, and Lieut. Potter and Sweeney of the New-York volunteers arrived last evening at the Astor House, where they were received by a number of their friends. Col. Burnett walked on crutches, as did Lieut. Potter. Lieut. Sweeney was deficient of his right arm, and Maj. Dyckman carried his arm in a sling.

RUBEL COMING.—The *Courrier des Etats-Unis* says that Rubel is coming to New-York by the next steamer. Shall we not hear him?

UNITED STATES MARSHAL'S OFFICE.—Mr. David A. Conklin, mate of the sloop *Mary Ann*, from the Coast of Africa, appeared this morning with the vessel's papers, and stated that the Captain went on shore, sick—that he had reason to believe the object of the voyage was not such as he had shipped for—and he felt it his duty to bring the vessel home.—*The Captain*, it will be recollect, died on his passage back in another vessel, in pursuit of the *Mary Ann*—We understand, on the information thus given, the vessel is to be hauled.

At the adjourned Anniversary Meeting of the Medical Society of the County of New York, held on Thursday, the 23 Inst. Dr. J. Kearney Rogers was elected President; Dr. John E. Drake, Vice President; Dr. Benj. Robson, Treasurer; Dr. James O. Pond, Cor. Secretary; Dr. John R. Van Kleeck, Recording Secy.; and Dr. Jas. R. Wood, Gates Carter, O. S. Barnes, Henry D. Bulkeley, and Thomas F. Cook, Censors.

THE BRAZILIAN SLAVES.—Da Rocha and Da Costa, the two slaves who made so much stir in this city a few months since, have arrived out, we see by one of the papers, at Portau Prince, St. Domingo. Da Costa has been taken into the service of Rev. Wm. J. Judson, of the Methodist Society of the County of New York, held on Thursday, the 23 Inst. Dr. J. Kearney Rogers was elected President; Dr. John E. Drake, Vice President; Dr. Benj. Robson, Treasurer; Dr. James O. Pond, Cor. Secretary; Dr. John R. Van Kleeck, Recording Secy.; and Dr. Jas. R. Wood, Gates Carter, O. S. Barnes, Henry D. Bulkeley, and Thomas F. Cook, Censors.

Letters from Amsterdam, received by the New-York Tribune, on Monday evening, state that the Dutch Government, in view of the recent revolution in that country, has sent a naval force to the Texan coast, to prevent the landing of the English troops.

Letters from Hull this morning mention the stoppage of Mr. Morrison's vessel, a merchant in the Baltic trade, at the port of Stavanger, Norway, 25 days, en route, to the port of Copenhagen, whence he had sailed for New-York.

Letters from Liverpool, dated Nov. 20, report the arrival of the *W. H. Watson*, from New-York, 20 days, en route, to the port of Liverpool.

SWITZERLAND.—Zurich, Nov. 13.—Some cannon-shots fired, yesterday on Mount Albis, announced an offensive movement on the part of the forces of the Sonderbund. The drums immediately beat to arms, and all the troops of the Swiss were sent to the direction of Oltenbach, on the right bank of the Reuss. The troops of Lucerne, with their allies, consisting of four battalions of infantry, five companies of riflemen, and six pieces of field pieces had crossed the Reuss, and were marching to seize a long canon-cannon in the direction of the Lake of Hallwil, where the 4th division appears likewise to have been attacked. Coloneum is operating with his troops to cut off the retreat of the 3d. The Sonderbund, who were, however, a few hours ago reported the nature of which, were compelled to retreat.

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